SENATE BILL 3268 By Fowler

AN ACT to amend Chapter 6 of the Private Acts of 1941, as amended by Chapter 475 of the Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 25 of the Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 257 of the Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 394 of the Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 159 of the Private Acts of 1967, Chapter 135 of the Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 176 of the Private Acts of 1984, Chapter 14 of the Private Acts of 1985, Chapter 106 of the Private Acts of 1987, and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to the Hamilton County General Sessions Court Act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Chapter 6 of the Private Acts of 1941, as amended by Chapter 475 of the Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 25 of the Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 257 of the Private Acts of 1955, Chapter 394 of the Private Acts of 1957, Chapter 159 of the Private Acts of 1967, Chapter 135 of the Private Acts of 1971, Chapter 176 of the Private Acts of 1984, Chapter 14 of the Private Acts of 1985, Chapter 106 of the Private Acts of 1987, and all other acts amendatory thereto is further amended by designating the present language of Section 1 as subsection (a) and by adding the following new subsections:

- (b) There is hereby created Division IV of the General Sessions Court of Hamilton County. The judge to fill such new division shall be initially elected in the regular August election in 1996.
- (c) The person elected to the position of general sessions court judge for Division IV in August, 1996, shall serve until September 1, 1998, or until a successor is elected and qualified.

- (d) At the regular August election in 1998 and every eight (8) years thereafter, the qualified voters of Hamilton County shall elect a person to serve as judge of Division IV for a full eight (8) year term. A vacancy in the office of judge of Division IV shall be filled for the unexpired term as provided by general law.
- (e) The judge of Division IV of the general sessions court of Hamilton County shall have the same powers, duties, responsibilities, jurisdiction, authority, and shall be paid the same compensation in the same manner and with the same restrictions as the judges of the three (3) present divisions of general sessions court. Supplies, courtroom, furnishings and other necessary equipment shall be furnished the judge of such new division in the manner provided by subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 2. Chapter 6 of the Private Acts of 1941, as amended, is further amended by deleting all references to "three (3) divisions" and substituting "four (4) divisions".

SECTION 3. Chapter 6 of the Private Acts of 1941, as amended, is further amended by adding to Section 5 a new paragraph as follows:

The judge of Division IV of general sessions court shall hold court during the afternoon and evening hours.

SECTION 4. Chapter 6 of the Private Acts of 1941, as amended, is further amended by adding a new section as follows:

SECTION ____. Transition provisions.

Upon the approval of this act by the county legislative body, the respective political parties may hold nominating conventions to select candidates for election in the regular August Election in 1996 and shall notify the Hamilton County Election Commission of any action by noon on May 16, 1996. Independents may qualify by May 16, 1996, as provided by law.

SECTION 5. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the county legislative body of Hamilton County. Its approval or nonapproval shall be

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proclaimed by the presiding officer of the county legislative body and certified by him to the secretary of state.

SECTION 6. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, it shall become effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect upon being approved as provided in Section 5.

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- AN ACT to amend Chapter 6 of the Private Acts of 1941, as amended by Chapter 475 of the Private Acts of 1949, Chapter 25 of the Private Acts of 1953, Chapter 257 of

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